

**Shotley Open Spaces
Committee Meeting 20 July 2017
Bristol Arms 14.00
Minutes**

Apologies: Ian S, Alex P.

Attendees: Gary R, Derek G, Heide G, Roger C, Ian P, Pat S, Marian P, Geraint P, Shane Rolin, Derek F, Jane L, Mel C, Mike C.

1. Minutes of last meeting: 15/06/17 Confirmed and signed.
2. Walkers are Welcome. Guest Speaker Sue Calver (BDC Communities Health and Wellbeing Officer). Covers a broad remit around ageing well and active ageing. Accessibility to all is integral to her role in "One Life Suffolk" . They promote walks every Thursday - Disability friendly (wheelchairs, bus routes, toilets, loneliness, isolation, recuperation). Sudbury and Hadleigh are already on board. We want to be part of "social prescribing" too. Getting our GP surgery involved is a priority. Sue will be contacting them to bring them on board. Claire Parker and Ellie Tudor will be expanding this in coming years. Health Walks will generally be less than 90 minutes. This doesn't preclude longer walks but they could be an "introduction" for newcomers. The social side is just as important as the health benefits. Gary mentioned the Walk Leaders "wash up session" that is to be facilitated by Ellie Tudor at the Bristol Arms. 8/8/2017 - 09.30. Tea/Coffee, share experiences, Light Lunch. maybe a short walk hosted by us afterwards. Four people from Eye, led by Merlin Carr, also attended a walk here recently. They are keen to follow our example and we are attending a walk there on Sunday 10 September (lunch in their pub 12.30). Clare and Hadleigh are also interested, although the PC in the latter want greater involvement. SWAWA (Suffolk Walkers Are Welcome Alliance) is to be launched at the Bristol Arms 18/8/2017 similar format to the "wash up" 9.30 registration, Meeting, light lunch, walk afterwards. Gary mooted a replacement for the VOTY sign by the corner garage, celebrating our status as the first WaW village in Suffolk. Sue Calver kindly offered half funding for this and Jane Leach is investigating costs.

3. T.A.G.

The Arthur Ransome events grew and grew. Problems have been encountered by Oliver Paul with the original spec. for the film equipment. He is looking for alternative kit. We have funding for the electric bike feasibility study. "AONB sustainable development fund" is going to support us. The bikes are to be purchased ASAP. MP, JL, GR and GP to take it forward. Gary met with Jessica Johnson a freelance writer for "Coast" magazine. There will be an article in the November edition. We have also purchased leaflet dispensers for fixing to the Arthur Ransome boards. We now have to fit them.

4. Parish Council Update

Cathy Smith has taken our work to the PC re. the updated Explorer Guides. There are now four walks on them as opposed to the original two. There is unlikely to be any movement on the subject of £800 donation to the Explorer Guide Costs. To our knowledge no businesses have been contacted since last month.

5. Heritage Park 2017 maintenance . A great deal of work done during the last month, both in conjunction with Sodexo and independently. Would David Wood be a possible source of funding for line marking? Should we suggest this is an ongoing task the PC ought to pursue?

6. Gun Deck Working Group

No response from PC to date. IS wrote to PC to keep them updated but they have now expressed concern that he is doing things in the Gun Deck!

7. Marketing and promotions.

All 60 plus photos "Shotley through the Seasons" are now on a stick. Winter Spring and Summer look healthy but Autumn is a little sparse. (A few more entries please?) Could everyone badger people one more time. Proposal: 400 calendars to be produced through 'Think Ink' again. Hold price at £6 as last year.

8. Treasurers Report

Gary made a verbal report. Will append figures to corrected draft.

A.O.B. Orwell Lady wants to do a "Walking Trip" in conjunction with one of their cruises. (3 or 4 times a year).

Suffolk Day BBQ was successful. (only spark up from 16.00 onwards in future).

JL and GR reported back fro Stour and Orwell Forum. How can District Councils and County Councils promote “sustainable access”? Public Consultation later this year. Annette Robinson talked about what we do.

Bill Jenman showed around 3 people from the HLF. Gary talked to them along with RW and others. Bill had very positive feedback from them. Further news will be forthcoming in October..

We have been offered a free share in the pier so that SOS can have a vote in future meetings. We have accepted this offer.

Brian Ives has been in contact re. British Legion Event next year.

We will be supporting it as individuals but not as an organisation.

Meeting Closed 15.50